

**We Claim:**

- DW A3*
1. A method of accrediting participants to an event, said method comprising the steps of:  
5 collecting information from each of said participants;  
producing a non-valid pass for each of said participants;  
issuing respective non-valid passes to said participants; and  
upon arrival of each participant at, or proximate an event venue, validating said non-valid  
pass, thereby accrediting said participant.
- 10 2. A method according to claim 1, comprising the further step of:  
upon arrival of each participant, verifying information of said participant before said  
non-valid pass is validated.
- 15 3. A method according to claim 1, comprising the further steps of:  
for foreign participants and before arrival of participants, sending a bulk visa request to an  
Immigration Authority; and  
receiving a visa status from said immigration department, allowing said validated pass to  
serve as a visa.
- 20 4. A method according to claim 1, comprising the further steps of:  
ascribing an accreditation class to each of said participants; and  
ascribing privileges to each of said accreditation classes.
- 25 5. Apparatus for accrediting participants to an event, said apparatus comprising:  
means for collecting information from each of said participants;  
means for producing a non-valid pass for each of said participants;  
means for issuing respective non-valid passes to said participants; and  
upon a participant's arrival at, or proximate an event venue, means for validating said  
30 non-valid pass, thereby accrediting said participant.
6. Apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising:

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for foreign participants and before arrival of said participants, means for sending a bulk visa request to an Immigration Authority; and

means for receiving a visa status from said Immigration Authority, allowing said validated pass to serve as a visa.

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7. Apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising:

means for ascribing an accreditation class to each of said participants; and

means for ascribing privileges to each of said accreditation classes.

10 8. Apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said system is a distributed system comprising interconnected servers and workstations.

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APR 19 1993  
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE